

I claim:

1        1. An improvement in a cloaked RFID tag 10 having an antenna comprising:

2            a switch;

3            a logic circuit coupled to said switch to selectively allow communication of

4            signals through said antenna during normal operation to allow output of a signal from

5            said RFID tag through said antenna and to disable the output from said RFID during a

6            cloaking period; and

7            a receiving connection to said RFID tag so that command signals are

8            continuously receivable notwithstanding cloaking of said RFID tag.

1        2. The improvement of claim 1 wherein said RFID tag includes an input circuit

2            and wherein said receiving connection is an electrical connection between said antenna

3            and said input circuit which is not interrupted by operation of said switch.

1           3. The improvement of claim 2 wherein said electrical connection comprises

2    a diode coupled between said antenna and said input circuit.

1           4. The improvement of claim 1 wherein said switch is a grounding switch

2    coupled between said antenna and ground.

1           5. The improvement of claim 1 wherein said switch communicates signals

2    through said antenna by selectively grounding said antenna according to said signals

3    during said normal operation.

1           6. The improvement of claim 1 wherein said logic circuit couples signals to said

2    switch to ground said antenna during said normal operation and isolates signals from

3    said switch during said cloaking operation.

1           7. The improvement of claim 5 wherein said logic circuit couples signals to

2    said switch to ground said antenna during said normal operation and isolates signals

3    from said switch during said cloaking operation.

1           8. The improvement of claim 1 further comprising supplying power through

2    said antenna to said RFID circuit during said cloaking operation.

1           9. The improvement of claim 1 wherein said switch is a switching transistor.

1           10. An RFID tag comprising:

2           an antenna;

3           an input circuit coupled to said antenna;

4           a switch controlling said antenna;

5           a logic circuit coupled to said switch to selectively allow communication of

6           signals through said antenna during normal operation to allow output of a signal from

7           said RFID tag through said antenna and to disable the output from said RFID during a

8           cloaking period; and

9           a receiving connection to said RFID tag so that command signals are

10          continuously receivable through said antenna by said input circuit notwithstanding

11          cloaking of said RFID tag.

1           11. The RFID tag of claim 10 wherein said receiving connection is an electrical

2           connection between said antenna and said input circuit which is not interrupted by

3           operation of said switch.

1           12. The RFID tag of claim 11 wherein said electrical connection comprises a  
2 diode coupled between said antenna and said input circuit.

1           13. The RFID tag of claim 10 wherein said switch is a grounding switch  
2 coupled between said antenna and ground.

1           14. The RFID tag of claim 10 wherein said switch communicates signals

2 through said antenna by selectively grounding said antenna according to said signals  
3 during said normal operation.

1           15. The RFID tag of claim 10 wherein said logic circuit couples signals to said

2 switch to ground said antenna during said normal operation and isolates signals from  
3 said switch during said cloaking operation.

1           16. The RFID tag of claim 14 wherein said logic circuit couples signals to said

2 switch to ground said antenna during said normal operation and isolates signals from  
3 said switch during said cloaking operation.

1        17. The RFID tag of claim 10 further comprising a power connection for  
2 supplying power through said antenna to said RFID circuit during said cloaking  
3 operation.

1        18. The RFID tag of claim 10 wherein said switch is a switching transistor.

2        19. An improvement in a method of controlling a cloakable RFID tag  
3 comprising:

4                disabling communication of data signals from said RFID tag through said  
5 antenna coupled to said RFID tag during cloaking of said RFID tag; and  
6                receiving command signals by said RFID tag through said antenna during said  
7 cloaking operation.

1        20. The improvement of claim 19 wherein receiving command signals by said  
2 RFID tag through said antenna during said cloaking operation couples said command  
3 signals through an electrical connection between said antenna and an input circuit  
4 which is not interrupted by operation of said switch.

1           21. The improvement of claim 20 wherein coupling said command signals  
2 through an electrical connection between said antenna and said input circuit comprises  
3 coupling said command signals through a diode coupled between said antenna and  
4 said input circuit.

1           22. The improvement of claim 19 further comprising communicating data  
2 signals from said RFID tag through said antenna by selectively grounding said antenna  
3 through a switch coupled between said antenna and ground during normal operation.

1           23. The improvement of claim 22 further comprising disabling communication  
2 of data signals from said RFID tag through said antenna by selectively isolating said  
3 data signals from said switch coupled between said antenna and ground during  
4 cloaking operation.

1           24. The improvement of claim 19 further comprising supplying power through  
2 said antenna to said RFID circuit during said cloaking operation.